

Remarks

Further to the Amendment filed July 10, 2003, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated April 10, 2003, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 and 15-19 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1-4, 15 and 19 being independent. Claims 9-14 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended and Claims 15-19 have been added herein. Claims 1-8 are still believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth in the previous Amendment.

Meyer is also not believed to disclose or suggest the features of the newly presented claims. For example, Meyer does not disclose or suggest at least the recording data is divided into a plurality of data blocks so that recording is performed on a leading end or a rear end of the recording medium, with respect to the conveying direction, by a plurality of recording operations performed by positioning the leading end or the rear end of the recording medium on each of the at least two ribs rows, and the recording data is divided into the data blocks so that a recording operation based on each data block is not performed at a portion where the recording medium is superimposed with a rib and a portion corresponding to a vicinity thereof, as is recited in independent Claims 15 and 19. Nor is Meyer believed to disclose or suggest each data block has overlapped region recording data which is recording data for a region overlapping another data block, and recording is performed except for recording data different from the overlapped recording data and the other recording data, as is further recited in independent Claim 19.

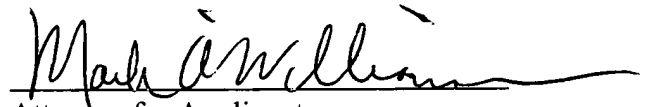
Thus, Meyer also fails to disclose or suggest important features of the present invention recited in independent Claims 15 and 19. These claims, therefore, are also believed to be patentable over the citations of record.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined by independent Claims 1-4, 15 and 19. Dependent Claims 5-8 and 16-18 are also allowable, in their own right, for defining features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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